

## READS LIKE A NOVEL.

REMARKABLE DRAMA OF REAL LIFE WITH INTRICATE PLOT.

An Adventurous Named Mary Thiers the Woman in the Case—Sensational Results of the Conviction of a Cleveland Physician of Burglary.

A drama of real life more extraordinary in its developments than the complicated plots of Wilkie Collins has been brought to light by the indefatigable investigations of a Cleveland attorney.

Two years ago a Dr. Emerson of Berea, a Cleveland suburb, was arrested on the charge of burglary. The trial was sensational, a pathetic feature being the devotion displayed by his young and beautiful wife, who sat constantly by his side during the trial. Emerson was convicted and sent to the penitentiary. His wife was shocked later to discover that he had repaid her devotion by surreptitiously making out a mortgage of his property, while in jail, to one Mary Thiers.

Mrs. Emerson's love turned to hatred, she instituted divorce proceedings and was granted a decree. Then she consulted an attorney in regard to the legality of the mortgage. In his investigation the attorney discovered that Mary Thiers had been living with John Thiers, who was not her husband. This John Thiers died last July, leaving all his property to Mary. He had been an intimate friend of Dr. Emerson.

Several days after the attorney received a letter from a man named Wittman of Buffalo. The writer said he had read the name of John Thiers in the death list of a Cleveland newspaper. He asked the attorney to make inquiries and see if John Thiers was not in reality Casper Wittman, the writer's father. "Casper Wittman," continued the writer, "left his devoted wife in Buffalo to follow Mary Thiers, who poisoned his mind against his family. He was worth \$50,000 in cash and held much real estate in Cleveland and Detroit."

The letter concluded with the statement that if Thiers and Wittman were the same, the attorney should immediately institute proceedings to contest the will, as the writer should maintain that his mother and children were Casper Wittman's legal heirs.

An investigation of the will settled the question of identity. It is signed John Thiers, but he says he was formerly known as Casper Wittman. Now comes another complication. In his will Wittman speaks of his "former wife." The court records show that he was never divorced in Cleveland, and the attorney claims that were Wittman divorced the divorce would be fraudulent. The story of these two suits, derived from entirely different sources and so singularly welded together, furnishes litigation that has no precedent in the state of Ohio.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

## BIG EXPLOSIONS.

Hundreds of Pounds of Dynamite Used to Clear a River.

The impetuous action taken by the recent wreck of some 33 boats and barges of the coal fleet and 250,000 bushels of coal on Dead Man's river, 19 miles below Pittsburgh, was attacked by the United States government authorities with dynamite the other afternoon. Some 1,100 pounds of dynamite, in charges averaging 100 pounds each, were exploded among the wrecks and their cargoes. Several of the barges were blown to pieces, and the channel was fairly cleared.

The dynamite threw great columns of water 80 feet in the air. A piece of a beam pierced the hurricane deck of the tugboat Leader, from which the officials were conducting the operation, broke the hog chain, and nearly struck the boat's mate, who was asleep in his bunk. The charges were fired from an electric battery on the Leader, which was kept about 250 feet away from the wrecks, with which it was connected by a wire.

Socialists to Form a National Party.

On account of the great gains made by the Socialist-Labor party in the recent election the central labor federation at its meeting recently in New York considered formally the starting of a movement to form a national labor party on socialist lines, which would be entirely outside of the methods and policy of the Knights of Labor and the American Federation of Labor.

"Uncle Tom" in Hospital. George Clark, the quadron who, as an escaped slave, lectured in the north before the war, has been taken to the Protestant infirmary, at Lexington, on account of failing health. He is bedridden, and unless he improves readily under treatment, it is probable that he cannot live long. He is the original of George Harris in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." He is 84 years old.

## THE OPENING OF CONGRESS.

The two important questions that need immediate attention are the revenue and the currency. These two matters ought to command the earnest attention of congress soon after it meets.—Savannah News.

No one seems to anticipate a great deal of legislation in this congress.—Boston Herald.

To stop the deficit and protect the gold reserve is the first and imperative duty of the Republicans.—Indianapolis Journal.

Beyond his somewhat vague declaration that the Republicans in congress will be ready "at all times to furnish adequate revenue for the government" the speaker gives no hint as to the financial policy of the majority.—Philadelphia Record.

What Might Be Expected.

"Please, sir," whistled the boy with two front teeth missing. "Minnie Williams' mother says Minnie can't come to school cos she's got a stitch in her side."

"Who is Minnie Williams' mother?" the new schoolteacher asked.

"She's the dressmaker."

Cossey's Dream.

General Cossey, the ex-commander in chief, announced the other night at Pittsburgh that he is a candidate for the presidency.

## A PROPHECIC WELL.

Mr. Wheat Says It Always Warns Him of a Coming Storm.

I have been able to forecast the weather during the past season from 12 to 24 hours in advance very accurately, by means of a well which I put down two years since and which has proved phenomenal in this respect.

The well is on a hill, overlooking the surrounding country, known as the Wheat hill, is 80 feet deep, 20 feet and 40 feet solid blue clay, 20 feet quicksand and ground, has a good supply of water, not affected by the dry weather of this season. Storms are indicated in advance by a discoloration of the water, it having the appearance of milk being dropped in it and being quite agitated in appearance when pumped from the well. This condition of the water usually continues but a short time, generally becoming clear before the storm commences. With an approaching storm these conditions of the water are more or less extreme as the storm will be more or less severe.

As to its reliability and accuracy as a weather forecaster for western New York, I consider it correct from observations of the past summer and fall. While the weather bureau and all of our weather prophets have made mistakes on account of unexpected summer winds and high and low, the well has made no mistakes. For example, on the 10th of August last the weather bureau gave no warning of storm. Mr. Parker stated that no rain was in sight and could look for continued dry weather, but the well gave the strongest indications of storm of any time this summer.

On the 17th, in the afternoon and evening there was a terrific electric and rain storm, which swept Wayne and Ontario counties.

Many other similar instances could be mentioned, but it is unnecessary. I hope this matter may attract the attention of some of our scientific men who are engaged in investigating nature's secrets, for I believe a careful investigation and study of the action of this well in connection with the weather will prove of value.—V. B. Wheat, Orleans, N. Y., in Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

## FREE TELEPHONES.

An Ohio Town Profits From Kean Competition.

Norwalk, O., is probably the only city in the United States whose inhabitants, to the number of at least 250, have been furnished with telephones free for one year.

The trouble began with the introduction of the Harrison telephone into the city. The company offered a rate considerably lower than that of the Bell Telephone company, and attracted many subscribers. When 200 people had signed their intention of using the new telephone, and the Bell company saw that it must face opposition, it made the announcement that telephones would be placed in business houses and dwellings for \$1 a year. This offer at once drew a large number of subscribers, and the list of Bell telephones soon numbered about 500.

Now wires had to be strung, and, with the Harrison company's 250 telephones, this city of 10,000 people employed over 500 telephones. When these using the Bell telephone went to pay their yearly rental fee of \$1, they were informed that it was not necessary, and received bills for the amount given them. Next year the Bell company will charge for the use of its telephones. The price will be a shade less than that asked by the Harrison company. The latter did not attempt to meet the competition of the Bell company.—New York Sun.

## THEY WANT OUR TRADE.

Japan Will Sell Its Bicycles For \$13 and Other Things To Exports.

The San Francisco Daily Report of the other evening published a story calculated to startle American manufacturers. The article says that Japan is about to invade the United States with the agents of her factories, whose ability to produce articles of necessity more cheaply than the rest of the world can no longer be ignored. A few weeks since the agent of a peaceful manufacturing and commission house, whose headquarters are in Kobe and Hiogo, arrived in that city, and offered such inducements to San Francisco merchants that they were compelled to place large orders with the agent. A canvass of the San Francisco mercantile trade reveals the fact that an unprecedented cut in almost every line of staple goods has been made by the Japanese bidder.

Buttons by the great gross are delivered duty free at a fraction less than the actual cost per gross of the American article. Bicycles, guaranteed equal to the best high grade, are listed at \$12. Japanese matches are to be laid down at a price which is destined to close every match factory in the United States. Sashes, doors, blinds and all kinds of wooden ware can be delivered duty paid at 50 to 60 per cent less than the wholesale prices of local manufacturers.

After placing huge orders the agent left for the east, where agencies will be established in New York, Chicago, St. Louis and elsewhere for the purpose of underselling American and European manufacturers as fast as possible.—New York Sun.

London Has the Fever.

The "Trilby" infection has worked in the slower English blood a fever no less violent than that from which America recovered months ago. The craze has invaded everything and become almost inseparable to the Americans in London. More than 100,000 copies of the book have now been published, and the demand is unsatisfied. It is announced that the Harpers have finally secured Du Maurier's new novel for \$50,000 cash, the same price that was paid to Lord Beaconsfield for "Endymion."—New York Sun.

Keeping It From the Children.

A romantic feature of the celebrated Maybrick poisoning case is not generally known.

The two children, a boy and girl, who were 3 and 5 years of age at the time of their mother's conviction, have been placed in charge of a worthy couple in one of the English provinces remote from the scene of the tragedy, and are being brought up as the children of this pair, in the hope that their real parentage may never be made known to them.—New York Journal.

## THE SWANN UTOPIA.

CURIOUS HISTORY OF A DISPUTE OVER MILLIONS OF ACRES.

How General Swann Went to Europe to Further His Scheme—His Imprisonment. A Whole Town and Thousands of Farms Involved.

The noted land suits of H. C. King of Boston, in which hundreds of people, hamlets, towns, timber companies, farmers and miners in Logan, Mingo, McDowell, and, in fact, nearly all of the southwestern part of West Virginia are concerned, have come up for trial in the United States court before Judge J. J. Jackson. There are fully 20 attorneys engaged. The entire town of Williamson, in Mingo county, is at stake, and thousands of farms on which generations have been born, lived their allotted time and died are in jeopardy. The suit is for fully 1,500,000 acres of land, and originally was part of the Swann land grant for 4,500,000 acres in Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia.

The Swann grant was the cause of a suit of the most romantic character. General James Swann, who was a Revolutionary hero, was granted the above 4,500,000 acres by the house of burgesses of Virginia in June, 1798. Swann was a native of Boston and a protégé of the old commonwealth of Virginia. He conceived the idea of building up a Utopia in the vast territory granted him and went to France to consult with his old friends in the French army. His former comrades became entranced with the scheme, and through them Swann was introduced at court, where he became acquainted with the royalty of Europe. Among those who contributed to Swann's Utopia were kings, dukes, princes and lesser nobility almost without number. The old documents and papers in the archives of the court, yellow with age, are written in French and bear the signatures of men and women who were at that time the heads of governments or leaders of the fast and frivolous courts of Europe.

Unluckily for Swann, his appearance in France was at a time when that country became identified with Napoleon, who had just returned from the east and had established himself as first consul. In a few months Paris was thrown into confusion. Money became scarce and the financiers demanded payment of credits. Swann, who had participated too deeply in the follies of that court, found himself in debt over 4,000,000 francs. Swann's creditors demanded payment in cash or mortgages on his American possessions. He refused to do either, and was cast into the notorious prison Pelagie, where, under the prevailing French law, he was, with the exception of deprivation of freedom, supported in the manner in which he had lived while at liberty. He had his wines from the south of France, his cuisine was supplied by the best chefs of Paris and his apartments were luxurious in the extreme.

Swann remained a prisoner for ten years, and was released during the noted "three days," when the prisons were torn down or the doors thrown open. He was released only to die of a broken heart three years later. His lands were forfeited, but were reconveyed by Virginia to the heirs.

Meanwhile settlers by the thousand located or purchased, towns grew up and generation after generation was born, lived and died on the lands, which they had purchased in good faith for their fathers or other sales, until all the country covered by the great Swann Utopia was owned by settlers to the number of hundreds of thousands.

The celebrated H. C. King suit, which is of absorbing interest to thousands, is for part of these lands. Other suits for 800,000 and 400,000 acres of similar character depend upon the result of the present suits.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## Our Celestial Visitor.

The comet discovered at Lick observatory, California, on Nov. 17 by Mr. C. D. Perrine is now about 84,000,000 miles from the sun. The distance will decrease and reach a minimum of about 20,000,000 miles on Dec. 18, which time its angular distance from the point where its path intersects the ecliptic will be 375 degrees. After Dec. 18 the distance from the sun will again increase. The object is not visible to the naked eye, but its brightness is increasing very rapidly. It will undoubtedly be visible with telescope assistance within a few weeks.

Unfortunately, however, its approach to the sun will bring it into the morning twilight, and the difficulty of observation will be increased thereby. It is now 1 1/2 times as far from the earth as the sun is.

## Solomon's Miner Kelped.

The goldfields of Cripple Creek, Colo., are attracting considerable attention of late, owing to the richness of their product, which is estimated at \$1,000,000 a month. The total value of high grade ores mined during October was \$969,000, and of the low grade ore \$102,000. The grand total of the product reaches \$1,064,000. The record for November will show an increase.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

## "The Isolation of England."

The wind is hushed; the darkness grows; The falling moon is lost in flight; Death lifts a somber hand and throws His shadow across the face of night. With parted lips and haggard stare, That strives and strains to pierce the gloom, Each nation crouches in its lair, And, breathless, waits the coming doom. Dim shapes and shadows pass like ghosts; Along the trembling earth they feel The distant tramp of marching hosts, And hear the smothered clash of steel. Till, reaching out for friendly hands To guide them through the gloom, they press To where one silent figure stands, Here in lofty loneliness.

They hurl their taunts, their curses, their prayers, The mad of greed, the growl of hate; They spit upon the cloak she wears, Or grasp its hem to supplicate. But still, as though she heard them not, Her anxious eyes are fixed afar, Among the clouds, on one pale star. Where faintly gleams a single star.

By that same star she chose her path For every night in vanished years. Though screened by mists of doubt and wrath, She sees it still, as if through tears. Then, glistening at the fearful hour, Who call her now to lead the knees, She lays her hand upon her sword And turns her eyes toward the sea.

—St. James Gazette.

## STORIES OF THE DAY.

The Confederate and Federal Relics at the Atlanta Fair.

"Oh! you needn't mind," said a pleasant voice over my shoulder as I wiped a few tears from my eyes. "Great big men come in here and cry like babies. Why, it was only the other day that I looked around young and saw a man at least 50 years old, a tremendous, sinewy man, burying his face in his hands and sobbing like a child."

I bit my lip and turned to the speaker, who had caught me bending over an old suit of soldier's clothes in the Confederate Relic building at the World's Cotton. She was a tall, slender, aristocratic, blond girl, and she volunteered the information that she was the daughter of the late General Kirby Smith and was in charge of the building.

"Sometimes," she said, "I just can't stand it, and I have to go out. I don't think I can stay in here Confederate day, because then all the old soldiers will be here. My, my," she went on, "what stories I could write of my experiences in this building! One morning an old countryman came in and sat down for some moments without saying a word, and then, his eye lighted on a relic, he said, 'I heard him say to himself, 'By George, if that isn't Kirby Smith's coat, and I fought under him in every battle from the beginning of the war to the end.' And when I told him I was Kirby Smith's daughter the old man looked as if he would embrace me on the spot."

"The women, too," I said, "must show lots of feeling, don't they?"

"Well, not so much as the men. They come in, the old ladies who remember those days and the eye lights on a relic, and they say, 'I heard him say to himself, 'By George, if that isn't Kirby Smith's coat, and I fought under him in every battle from the beginning of the war to the end.' And when I told him I was Kirby Smith's daughter the old man looked as if he would embrace me on the spot."

"Well, it's a long time over, but some way I just can't keep from crying."

"And the northern people," I asked, "what do they think of these old flags and swords, those proclamations of secession?"

"Oh, most of them are very much interested, and the majority are sympathetic. Now and then a woman will come along and be disagreeable. One of the sweetest experiences I have had was with a woman from Denver. She came in and seemed so affected by the things that she said that I asked her if she had been a soldier, and she said, 'Yes, I was over those poor, old patched clothes there, but she turned to me and said, 'No, my dear, my husband was in the Federal army and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga, but my heart goes out to all of the blue and gray, for I know well how both sides suffered. His cuisine was supplied by the best chefs of Paris and his apartments were luxurious in the extreme."

"So often," said Miss Kirby Smith, "the old soldiers who own different relics here will pay the place a visit. General Doolittle, who owned the sword there, called the other day. He is the oldest Confederate veteran living, being 96 years and having lived under the administration of all the presidents except the first two. The Chinamen flock here too. Having been conquered themselves, they have a kind of sympathy for the Confederate cause, and they look at the poor old flags and swords and pictures with the most appreciative interest."

"You see that horn there," pointing to a horn that lay in the case beside the Bible which Alexander Stephens carried all through the war, "the man that owned it paid a visit here recently, and he told me its interesting history. The horn was presented to him by a famous old hunter who he had never seen—he simply fell heir to it through the will of the man bequeathing it to the greatest hunter in the neighborhood next to himself. It gave the first blast for secession in Charleston. It has been the means for a number of years of winning for its owner \$300 to his income. This good fortune came to him through the exchange of courtesies with a wealthy northerner of his neighborhood, to whom he loans the horn for hunting, and in return the northern gentleman has loaned him his telescope, which in some way assists his revenue. Over there is the fiddle which the same old man carried through the war, and which between the hours of carnage cheered many a lagging and homesick spirit."

Just here the owner of the Georgia barbecue, an old soldier who served under General Kirby Smith, carried his pretty daughter off for dinner. And so I was left to investigate the pathetic secrets of this sacred little place alone. Not alone, but at least without this pretty human guidebook to inform me of the old things there will make anybody's heart ache, be they from north, south, east or west. There is the cradle in which Jeff Davis was rocked, there the sword of Stonewall Jackson and Robert Lee. There is an old spinning wheel, one of the few things left of Sherman's border of Atlanta, and the saddle from which General Paul Simmes fell, wounded to the heart, in the battle of Gettysburg.

In the midst of all these signs and symbols of sorrow and then there is a lighter note. A pair of satin slippers made by a plantation shoemaker for a bride during the war; a wedding dress, green, white and blue by a bride bearing the aristocratic name of Calhoun—such a poor, pitiful, little wedding dress of brown homespun, corded along the seams and ornamented with homely brown buttons; such a poor, pitiful, little wedding dress as the young mistresses would not have considered fit for one of her guests in the prosperous days.—Maudie Andrews in Pittsburgh Dispatch.

## A Significant Fact.

John F. Coyle, the antiquarian of the national capital, points to the interesting fact that the only speakers of the house of representatives who were denied votes of thanks by the house at the close of their service in the chair were James E. Folk and Thomas B. Reed, and that the former was afterward elected president of the United States.—Washington Cor. Chicago Times-Herald.

## FARM-FIELD AND GARDEN

### EXTRACTING HONEY.

How This May Be Done in the Late Fall and Winter.

Many beekeepers experience trouble in getting thick honey out of the combs at this time of the year and later on in the winter, if the honey is left in the combs until that time. G. M. Doolittle, whose large experience entitles his opinions to consideration, has the following, originally written for The American Bee Journal, to say on the subject:

Were it not that a much better article can be produced by leaving the honey on the hive until the end of the season, or until all is thoroughly sealed or ripened, I should be greatly in favor of extracting every third to fifth day during the season; but if we would have the best honey which can be produced, it becomes a necessity that we should extract thick honey. When I received my first extractor, it came in midwinter. I repaired to the shop, took down some frames of honey I had stored away, uncapped them and tried the machine. As might be expected, the thing was a failure. Upon going to bed that night I thought, of course, I could not succeed in throwing out frozen honey, for the extractor was made for use in the summer time when the weather is hot.

After some study and planning, the next morning found me up bright and early, with several combs hanging up near the ceiling of a small room, with a fire built and a thermometer hanging close by the combs of honey. I soon had the temperature of the room at the ceiling up to 95 degrees, where I kept it for six hours. In the afternoon I again tried the extractor, when I could easily throw out 95 per cent of the honey the combs contained. Even what was partially candied could nearly all be thrown out, and the combs hung away so close that no bees were needed to clean them off to keep them from draining. By hanging the combs near the ceiling of the room it does not take an extremely hot fire to keep the temperature at from 90 degrees to 100 degrees, or even higher, if you have old, tough combs. I kept the combs in just so much heat as they will bear without breaking down, for six hours, and where kept in this way no one need have a pound of honey left on them, as has been reported by some.

Another thing, the extracting, when done in this way, comes whether there is little else to do, or fall and early winter is comparatively a time of leisure with most beekeepers, and by tying up and leaving the honey on the hives until fall the extracting can be done when the bees of the busy season have passed by, and a quality of honey obtained which shall be of benefit to our market, instead of a curse, as winter honey always is a curse to any market where put on the scene.

### Irrigation by Windmills.

In dry seasons great losses are sustained. This loss is distributed over wide sections of the east, and cannot be said to be confined to any special place. The loss is apt to come any season, and often when we are the least prepared for it. The loss on Long Island last season would have erected windmills on a good part of the whole number of farms, according to a writer in The American Cultivator, who tells that a small garden of ten acres can yield a market garden a good living if it is kept in a high state of cultivation.

A windmill to irrigate such land, with all the necessary material for utilizing in price, need not cost more than \$500. In one season the crops will more than pay for this cost. Several years ago a dry spell swept over Long Island and Jersey, almost ruining the market gardeners' crops. Only a few had their land irrigated by windmills. The prices for all farm crops went up amazingly in price, and the few who could raise their crops made 60 per cent more than usual. In short, they made enough to pay for their windmills several times over. It is not a good plan to mortgage the farm for anything, but if there is any one thing that will be sure to bring in the money to pay off the mortgage and interest it is a good windmill and a perfect irrigation system."

### The Corn Crop.

The corn crop in some of the western states is so large this year that it will be practically impossible to market all of it. Farmers will put some into cattle and hogs, and market in that way. The price of corn is now very low, and it pays better to feed it to sell. A good deal will be put in crib and reserved for the higher price that is sure to come before the next corn crop can be harvested. It is a common remark that an extra large crop of corn is usually followed by a medium crop or one under size. Should there be a partial corn failure next year one-half of the corn crop reserved now will be worth as much as the whole crop would bring if rushed on the market at once.—American Cultivator.

### Starting Onions.

Onions, like other bulbs, can be easily preserved if kept dry, and although, if this is observed, they will stand a considerable range of temperature, it is desirable that they have a temperature of from 55 to 45 degrees. When in a damp room they start readily, especially if it approaches the buds start even if kept comparatively cool. Care should be taken not to store onions in too large bulk, and to prevent heating they should be in shallow bins or in crates.

### Worthy of Note.

The bean crop of western New York is reported to be excellent.

### A New Method of Canning.

A new method of canning, the "vacuum process," which is now being adopted by American packers, promises to revolutionize our entire fruit packing business and to give us better and cheaper canned goods in the near future.

In feeding silage F. H. King says it is much better to always feed from the top.

Connecticut farm gardeners combine milk production with their vegetables. There is a good deal of refuse that can be fed to stock and the manure is very useful.

### At the Massachusetts station

parade green and lime, arsenate of soda, and arsenate of lead were employed against the grapey moth and the caterpillar, arsenate of lead giving the best results and being recommended for the purpose.

### Lillian Russell Marriage Rumor.

It is reported in theatrical circles in St. Louis that Lillian Russell may take a fourth husband. Her leading tutor, Richie Ling, is mentioned in the report. "Why, the idea is perfectly absurd," Mr. Ling said tonight. "It is news to me. I never heard anything about it before, and I am sure that Miss Russell and myself have never discussed the subject in any way. We are simply professionally associated in the same report. One day he spends with the editors in convention, the next with the Knights of Pythias or Masons, another day he addresses a presbytery or Methodist conference and the next he holds a gathering of merchants or a labor union convention. A few weeks ago he camped out with the militia boys, and so he goes from one place to another, greeting all and making his private car a home for his friends and a means of furthering his ambition.—Baltimore American.

agriculture and more recently recalled by Rural New Yorker, it is claimed, water fills the hill. To two quarts of water lime, or hydraulic cement, add sweet skim milk until of the consistency of good cream. Pour in the milk slowly, stir briskly and thoroughly, and do not mix more than this quantity at a time, as it is liable to settle to the bottom and become hard. The proportions stated are not exact, and one will find that to use his own judgment a little, seeing that the consistency is not this enough to "run" or thick enough not to spread easily.

Use a flat brush, say four inches in width, and apply like oil paint. The paint, when dry, is a sort of creamy stone color, and any other color may be obtained by the addition of suitable pigments, which must first be "broken" or mixed in a little milk to a paste before being put with the first mixture. Better still, buy color ground in water. This paint has been extensively used for years with perfect satisfaction, looking well for several years, and is comparatively inexpensive. A common laborer can apply it at a saving of one-half the cost of painters' wages, and farmhands, when work is slack, could do it at a still greater saving.

For its lighthouses, beacons and keepers' dwellings the government uses a mixture of ten parts freshly slaked lime to one part of the best hydraulic cement, mixed well with salt water and applied quite thin. Another government recipe is as follows: Slake one-half bushel of lime with boiling water, keeping it covered during the process; then strain and add one peck of salt dissolved in warm water, three pounds of rice flour boiled in water to a thin paste, one-half pound of whitening and one pound of white glue dissolved in warm water. Allow it to stand several days, but apply hot. Two coats will usually be found necessary, as in all the foregoing formulas.

### Late Fall and Winter Irrigation.

Late Wilcox of Colorado, writing to American Agriculturist, says:

In many sections of the west fall irrigation has been practiced with good success. After the crops are harvested water is turned on and the soil given a thorough soaking. Replenishing moisture enhances the value of fall and winter irrigation. The land is also put into good condition for early spring plowing. But few crops should be irrigated from the time of planting until after the plants have had several days' growth. Fall irrigation supplies moisture sufficient to start the crops and gives them a vigorous growth of a few weeks before irrigation is necessary. It is better for young plants to have the moisture come from beneath than from the surface, especially in early spring. In Colorado it has been found that water may be applied advantageously before the regular cold days of winter set in, and this method is generally adopted where water can be had at that time of the year. The late irrigation is useful after a dry fall, and is especially to be commended in the preparation for crops which require the maximum amount of moisture, and for orchards where the water supply is likely to be short the following season. The land acts as a storage reservoir. Let the soaking be a good deep one. Orchardists adopt this plan to circumvent the evil effects of winter drying.

### Fighting Cutworms.

In a bulletin from the New Jersey station it is stated that clover or sod land is most frequently infested by cutworms, which are less frequently found on late cultivated land. The worms are especially abundant in crimson clover. Among the remedies suggested clean culture is placed first, prominently associated with early fall plowing. Applying a top dressing of kainit and nitrate of soda in the early spring if corn is to be planted is advised, the seedling to be delayed until a rain has carried the fertilizers into the soil. Distributing clover or bran that has been moistened with paris green about the fields is also recommended.

### A Word About Teosinte.

At the Oklahoma agricultural experiment station this season teosinte, under favorable conditions, gave a yield of about 25 tons of green fodder per acre as one cutting. On thinner land and where there was less moisture the yield was much less. The crop was injured by chinch bugs, which seemed to feed on it as readily as on corn. It is objected to the crop that it is a difficult one to cut and handle. The fact that it does not mature so early in the United States will be a serious objection to it.

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